

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

**Claim 1 (canceled)**

1           **Claim 2 (currently amended):** A real-time information  
2     receiving apparatus for receiving real-time information  
3     transferred via an asynchronous packet network, comprising:  
4           a packet receiving unit for receiving a real-time  
5     information packet which is transmitted at a constant  
6     coding speed, while having a constant packet length;  
7           a jitter absorbing buffer for temporarily storing  
8     thereinto the real-time information packet received by said  
9     packet receiving unit;  
10          a decoding unit for decoding data stored in said  
11     jitter absorbing buffer;  
12          packet number judging means for measuring a total  
13     number of packets stored in said jitter absorbing buffer  
14     and for comparing said measured total packet number with a  
15     preset threshold value, and also for notifying the  
16     comparison result to a continuation monitoring timer; and  
17          a continuation monitoring timer for judging as to  
18     whether ~~or not such~~ a time period during which said  
19     comparison result of said packet number judging means

1 exceeds ~~a~~ the threshold value is continued over a  
2 predetermined threshold value, and for notifying ~~such a~~  
3 ~~fact~~ a result that said time period is continued over said  
4 predetermined threshold value to data discarding means; and  
5 data discarding means for discarding either a portion  
6 or all of the packets stored in said jitter absorbing  
7 buffer based upon the ~~comparison~~ result of said  
8 continuation monitoring timer.

1 **Claim 3 (original):** A real-time information receiving  
2 apparatus for receiving real-time information transferred  
3 via an asynchronous packet network, comprising:

4 a packet receiving unit for receiving a real-time  
5 information packet which is transmitted at a constant  
6 coding speed, while having a constant packet length;

7 a jitter absorbing buffer for temporarily storing  
8 thereinto the real-time information packet received by said  
9 packet receiving unit;

10 a decoding unit for decoding data stored in said  
11 jitter absorbing buffer;

12 a reception packet counter for counting a total number  
13 of real-time information packets received by said packet  
14 receiving unit after a communication is commenced;

15           comparing means for comparing said total packet number  
16   counted by said reception packet counter with a  
17   predetermined threshold value; and  
18           data discarding means for discarding either a portion  
19   or all of the packets stored in said jitter absorbing  
20   buffer based upon the comparison result of said comparing  
21   means, which is acquired at a time instant when a  
22   predetermined time period has elapsed after the  
23   communication has been commenced.

1           **Claim 4 (original):** A real-time information receiving  
2   apparatus as claimed in claim 3 wherein:

3           said real-time information receiving apparatus is  
4   further comprised of:

5           a timer for outputting a time-up signal after a  
6   predetermined time period has passed from a time instant  
7   when a first packet is received, or said data is decoded  
8   for the first time since the communication has been  
9   commenced; and

10          said data discarding means discards either a portion  
11   or all of the packets stored in said jitter absorbing  
12   buffer based upon the comparison result of said comparing  
13   means when said time-up signal is outputted.

1           **Claim 5 (currently amended):** A real-time information  
2     receiving apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding  
3     claims [[1]]2 to 4 wherein:  
4           said data discarding means discards either a portion  
5     or all of the packets stored in said jitter absorbing  
6     buffer in the unit of a packet.

1           **Claim 6 (currently amended):** A real-time information  
2     receiving apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding  
3     claims [[1]]2 to 4 wherein:  
4           said data discarding means discards either a portion  
5     or all of the packets stored in said jitter absorbing  
6     buffer in the unit of a byte.

1           **Claim 7 (original):** A real-time information receiving  
2     apparatus as claimed in claim 6 wherein:  
3           the data discarded by said data discarding means  
4     corresponds to such data which may give a small adverse  
5     influence to a transmission quality when being discarded.

1           **Claim 8 (original):** A real-time information receiving  
2     apparatus as claimed in claim 7 wherein:  
3           said real-time information packet corresponds to a  
4     voice packet; and

5           said data discarding unit is comprised of:

6           a non-voice portion detecting unit for detecting a  
7 non-voice portion of voice information stored in said  
8 jitter absorbing buffer; and

9           a discarding unit for discarding either a portion or  
10 all of said detected non-voice portions; and said data  
11 discarding means discards only the detected non-voice  
12 portion when the data discarding operation is carried out.

1           **Claim 9 (previously presented):**     A real-time  
2 information receiving apparatus as claimed in claim 8  
3 wherein:

4           said non-voice portion detecting unit notifies  
5 information as to such a non-voice portion which should be  
6 discarded within said detected non-voice portions to said  
7 discarding unit; and

8           said discarding unit discards only said notified non-  
9 voice portion.

1           **Claim 10 (original):**     A real-time information  
2 receiving apparatus as claimed in claim 9 wherein:

3           said non-voice portion detecting unit divides said  
4 detected non-voice portion by using a block having a  
5 preselected fixed length as a dividing unit, and notifies  
6 such a block except for a head block thereof and a tail

7 block thereof as said block which should be discarded to  
8 said discarding unit.

1 **Claim 11 (currently amended):** A real-time information  
2 receiving apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding  
3 claims ~~[[1]]~~2 to 4 wherein:

4 said data discarding means is comprised of:

5 a discarding unit for discarding either a portion or  
6 all of the data stored in said jitter absorbing buffer; and

7 a dummy data producing/inserting unit for producing  
8 such dummy data having a smaller data amount than an amount  
9 of said data to be discarded, and for inserting said  
10 produced dummy data into said jitter absorbing buffer; and

11 said data discarding means inserts said dummy data  
12 instead of the data to be discarded when the data stored in  
13 said jitter absorbing buffer is discarded.

1 **Claim 12 (currently amended):** A real-time information  
2 receiving apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding  
3 claims ~~[[1]]~~2 to 4 wherein:

4 said data discarding means is comprised of:

5 a discarding unit for discarding either a portion or  
6 all of the data stored in said jitter absorbing buffer; and

7 a discard judging unit for judging as to whether or  
8 not an amount of data stored in said jitter absorbing

9     buffer after the data is discarded becomes smaller than a  
10    predetermined threshold value before the data discarding  
11    operation is actually carried out; and  
12            said data discarding means does not execute the data  
13    discarding operation in such a case that said data amount  
14    of the jitter absorbing buffer becomes smaller than the  
15    threshold value.

1           **Claim 13 (currently amended):** A real-time information  
2    receiving apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding  
3    claims [[1]]2 to 4 wherein:

4            said data discarding means is comprised of:  
5            a discarding unit for discarding either a portion or  
6    all of the data stored in said jitter absorbing buffer; and  
7            a discard judging unit for judging as to whether or  
8    not an amount of data stored in said jitter absorbing  
9    buffer after the data is discarded becomes smaller than a  
10   predetermined threshold value before the data discarding  
11   operation is actually carried out; and

12           said data discarding means executes the data  
13   discarding operation in such a case that said data amount  
14   of the jitter absorbing buffer does not become smaller than  
15   the threshold value; and also discards only such a data  
16   amount that a data amount left in said jitter absorbing  
17   buffer is made equal to a threshold value in such a case

18    that since there are large numbers of data to be discarded,  
19    if all of said data to be discarded are discarded, then a  
20    data amount of said jitter absorbing buffer becomes smaller  
21    than the threshold value.